MR. SPEAKER: Nirmal Kantiji keep everything *nirmal* in the House.

(*Interruptions*)

So, I am allowing the adjournment motion to be taken up. But that will be taken up after some time because you all need the opportunity to discuss the adjornment motion. I am not allowing the Question Hour to be suspended.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: There are hardly five minutes left and you need the time. It would be a bad precedent.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: Please take your seats.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Sir, in your wisdom, you have not allowed the suspension of the Question Hour. We have heare with patience what the Leader of the House has said. It is very clear that the Government wants to persist with the anti-worker and anti-people's policies. Today we cannot participate in the officiai business of the House and in protest we walk out.

SHRI SRIKANTA JENA (Cuttack): We are not going to participate in the Government's business today.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee and some other hon. Members then left the House

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA (Andaman-Nicobar): Sir, we must send a message to those workers who are working today, A message from this Floor must be sent to them.

I move a Resolution that this House do appreciate and commend those sections of the working class who are working today all over the country for the upkeep of our national interests.

SHRI P.M. SAYEED (Lakshadweep): I second it.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Madhubani): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is a bandh in entire Bihar during the country-wide strike Even rickshaw pullers, tonja water and shopkeepers have observed the Bandh.

[*English*]

(*At this stage, Shri Bhogendra Jha and some other hon. Members left the House*)

MR. SPEAKER: Question No. 121.

SHRI MANORANJAN BHAKTA: What about my Resolution Sir?

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

11.58 hrs.

[*English*]

Introduction of Quality Certificate System

*122. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in a bid to remove non-trade barrier restricting exports to developed countries, especially European countries, the Government propose to introduce a quality certificate system as a part of the export promotion drive under the new Industrial Policy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assessment made by the Government to boost exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of the Government to encourage manufac-

ture of products conforming to international standards and regulations to encourage exports to the developed countries, including European Economic Community (EEC). In the context of realisation of the European Single Market in the year 1992, India has launched a Cooperation Programme on Standards in five identified areas, such as, electronic components, automotive sector, domestic electrical appliances, processed food and machine tools. However, there is no proposal to introduced a mandatory quality certificate system under the new industrial policy.

(c) The industry should be able to understand the regulations, standards and quality assurance requirements which they have to meet in order to get access to the Single European Market. The Indian testing and certification bodies need to upgrade themselves in terms of uptodate equipment and trained manpower. The testing and certification bodies must conclude mutual recognition agreements with EC counterparts so that their test results and certificates and acceptable in the EC. In this context, a dialogue has already been started by the Bureau of Indian Standards with the EC Commission and Quality System accredition bodies of the Netherlands and UK, whose response has been positive. As a follow up, BIS has also launched the Quality Systems Certification Scheme. All these measures are expected to ensure manufacture of goods of international standards, which will help to boost exports.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: The Government have made a good beginning by introducing quality certificate system to boost export for which I congratulate, the Government. The hon. Minister has stated in his reply that only five areas have been idc ntified for this purpose. I would like to know whether the readymade garments industry, which is exporting garments on a very large scale, would also be included in it?

[*English*]

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: In the context of establishment of the European Single Market in the year 1992, India has launched a Cooperation Programme on Standards in five identified areas, such as, electronic components, automotive sector, domestic electrical appliances, processed food and machine tools. This is mentioned in my statement. That does not mean that India would not have to adhere to the standards which the world expects from us, for other products. This is under a cooperative programme. But we have placed great stress on quality and standards.

In fact, if India wishes to export to Europe, we would have to oomply with ISO-9000 beginning in 1992. I take this opportunity to mention that five Indian companies have already acquired ISO-9000 certification. I am informed that 75 companies have applied for ISO-9000 certification. Indian products will meet the world standards and Government will do everything on its part to ensure that Indian products reach the world standards.

[*Translation*]

SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether there is any provision to check quality from time to time after issuing quality certificate?

SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM: There is a system of quality check. We have export inspection agencies. We have authorised private inspection agencies. We have authorised Government inspection agencies. These agencies are required to certify the quality which should be there. Under the Act, we have exempted some categories from export certification.